Serial No. 09/445,043

Docket No. 350013-65

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are being brought to the attention of the Examiner for consideration in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application. Copies of the cited documents are enclosed.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)), as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.
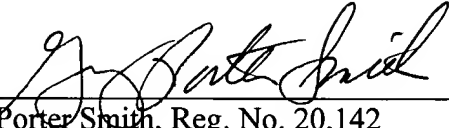
The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

It is respectfully requested that the examiner indicate consideration of the cited references by returning a copy of the attached form PTO-1449 with initials or other appropriate marks, and

that the references be made of record as cited references in the application.

March 14, 2000

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Enclosures: References (16)
                    International Search Report
                    European Search Report
                    UK Search Report

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